

CLAIMS

1. A method for obtaining user input in a graphical user interface, the method comprising:

5 displaying at least a portion of a first polygonal menu comprising a first set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the first polygonal menu;

receiving a user selection of an option from the first set of selectable options; and

10 displaying at least a portion of a second polygonal menu comprising a second set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the second polygonal menu, wherein the second polygonal menu is concentrically-disposed relative to the first polygonal menu.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a user selection of an option from the second set of selectable options;

and

15 displaying at least a portion of a third polygonal menu comprising a third set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the third polygonal menu, wherein the third polygonal menu is concentrically-disposed relative to the first and second polygonal menus.

20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein each side of the first polygonal menu is associated with a particular selectable option, and wherein the number of selectable options in the first set determines the number of sides for the first polygonal menu.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving comprises:

rotating the first polygonal menu about an axis to align a desired option from the first set with a fixed selection indicator.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein receiving further comprises:

detecting a user action indicating selection of the option aligned with the selection indicator.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving comprises:

moving a selection indicator circumferentially around the first polygonal menu to align the selection indicator with a desired option from the first set.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein receiving further comprises:

detecting a user action indicating selection of the option aligned with the selection indicator.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the selectable options from the second set are determined by a selected option from the first set.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the selectable options from the second set are sub-options of a selected option from the first set.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the selectable options from the first and second sets are hierarchically related.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one selectable option comprises an icon.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one selectable option comprises text description.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one selectable option is associated with an audio sample, and wherein the audio sample is played in response to the corresponding option being aligned with a selection indicator.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the second polygonal menu is
5 concentrically displayed around the first polygonal menu.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the second polygonal menu is concentrically displayed within the first polygonal menu.

16. The method of claim 2, wherein receiving a user selection of an option from the second set comprises:

10 rotating the second polygonal menu about an axis to align a desired option from the second set with a fixed selection indicator.

17. The method of claim 2, wherein receiving a user selection of an option from the second set comprises:

15 moving a selection indicator circumferentially around the second polygonal menu to align the selection indicator with a desired option from the second set.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second polygonal menus are rotatable about a common axis in response to a user command.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein the second polygonal menu is displayed in response to the selection of an option from the first set.

20 20. The method of claim 1, wherein the first polygonal menu is only partially displayed in the graphical user interface, and wherein the first set of selectable options comprises a subset of available options associated with the first polygonal menu.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the first polygonal menu is rotatable in response to a user command to display a different subset of available options.

22. A user interface comprising:

5 a first polygonal menu comprising a first set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the first polygonal menu; and

10 a second polygonal menu comprising a second set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the second polygonal menu, wherein the second polygonal menu is concentrically-disposed relative to the first polygonal menu, and wherein the second polygonal menu is displayed in response to a user selection of an option from the first set.

23. The user interface of claim 22, further comprising:

15 a third polygonal menu comprising a third set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the third polygonal menu, wherein the third polygonal menu is concentrically-disposed relative to the second polygonal menu, and wherein the third polygonal menu is displayed in response to a user selection of an option from the second set.

24. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the first and second polygonal menus are ring-shaped.

25. The user interface of claim 22, further comprising:

20 a fixed selection indicator;

wherein the first polygonal menu is rotatable to align a desired option from the first set of selectable options with the fixed selection indicator.

26. The user interface of claim 25, wherein the second polygonal menu is rotatable to align a desired option from the second set with the fixed selection indicator.

27. The user interface of claim 22, further comprising:

a first movable selection indicator configured to move circumferentially around the first polygonal menu to align with a desired option from the first set.

28. The user interface of claim 27, further comprising:

a second movable selection indicator configured to move circumferentially around the second polygonal menu to align to a desired option from the second set.

29. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the selectable options from the second set are determined by a selected option from the first set.

30. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the selectable options from the second set are sub-options of a selected option from the first set.

31. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the selectable options from the first and second sets are hierarchically related.

32. The user interface of claim 22, wherein at least one selectable option comprises an icon.

33. The user interface of claim 22, wherein at least one selectable option comprises text description.

34. The user interface of claim 22, wherein at least one selectable option is associated with an audio sample, and wherein the audio sample is played in response to the corresponding option being aligned with a selection indicator.

35. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the second polygonal menu is concentrically displayed around the first polygonal menu.

36. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the second polygonal menu is concentrically displayed within the first polygonal menu.

37. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the first and second polygonal menus are rotatable about a common axis in response to a user command.

5 38. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the first polygonal menu is only partially displayed, and wherein the first set of selectable options comprises a subset of available options associated with the first polygonal menu.

39. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the first polygonal menu is rotatable in response to a user command to display a different subset of available options.

40. A computer program product for performing a method for obtaining user input in a graphical user interface, the method comprising:

displaying at least a portion of a first polygonal menu comprising a first set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the first polygonal menu;

15 receiving a user selection of an option from the first set of selectable options; and

displaying at least a portion of a second polygonal menu comprising a second set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the second polygonal menu, wherein the second polygonal menu is concentrically-disposed relative to the first polygonal menu.

20 41. A system for obtaining user input in a graphical user interface, the system comprising:

means for displaying at least a portion of a first polygonal menu comprising a first set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the first polygonal menu;

means for receiving a user selection of an option from the first set of selectable options; and

means for displaying at least a portion of a second polygonal menu comprising a second set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the second polygonal menu, wherein the second polygonal menu is concentrically-disposed relative to the first polygonal menu.